

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q76663

Nobumasa ABE

Appln. No.: Unknown

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: July 24, 2003

Examiner: Unknown

For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS WITH TRANSFER BELT

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please enter the following amended claims:**

In the claims are two consecutive claims, each numbered as claim 3. The second claim numbered as claim 3, should be renumbered as claim 4, as follows:

4. An image forming apparatus comprising image forming stations for respective colors arranged along a transfer belt, each said image forming station including an image carrier, a charging means and a developing means disposed around said image carrier, said image forming apparatus further comprising a housing body in which said image forming stations and said transfer belt are situated, a support frame for supporting rollers around which said transfer belt is laid with some tension, and an image density detecting means which is arranged to face said